

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy and Procedure		
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services		
Effective: July 2014	Revised: September 2022	Due for Review: September 2024

POLICY

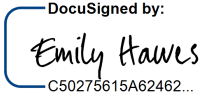
The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) is committed to providing quality psychiatric and medical care. VPCH shall provide such services necessary to deaf and hard of hearing individuals to ensure full access to treatment and other necessary services during hospitalization.

PROCEDURE

- A. At the time of admission, clinical staff shall identify individuals with hearing impairments.
- B. VPCH shall refer individuals in need of more comprehensive hearing evaluations and treatment to qualified resources in the community.
- C. VPCH shall assist in the procurement, maintenance, and replacement of hearing aids when clinically necessary.
- D. VPCH shall provide reasonable equipment to assist deaf or hard of hearing individuals to engage in treatment, including signage, dry-erase boards, and translucent masks.
- E. Whenever necessary during the hospitalization of a deaf or hard of hearing person, hospital employees shall utilize contracted service provider(s) (referenced below) to arrange to have a certified sign language interpreter available to ensure the individual has access to treatment and other necessary services.

References:

The State of Vermont currently has a [contract](#) for Sign Language Interpreter Services through [Vancro, Inc.](#) The primary contact for these services is Cory Brunner, Vice President, cory.brunner@vancro.com, (802)271-0103.

Approved by	Signature	Date
Emily Hawes Commissioner Vermont Department of Mental Health	 C50275615A62462...	9/26/2022